

Populations Health and Prevention Research Interest Group

Rebecca Haines Saah and Jason Cabaj (Co-leads)

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Subgroup description: The O'Brien Institute for Public Health has a vision of Better Health and Health Care, supported by three research themes: Improved Population Health, Enhanced Health Systems Performance, and Innovative Tools and Methods for Public Health. The purpose of the Population Health and Prevention (PH&P) Research Interest Group is to advance the Institute's Improved Population Health research theme and contribute toward achieving the portion of the O'Brien Institute vision pertaining to 'Better Health'. Because the membership represent diverse perspectives, traditions, and domains of research and practice, PH&P recognizes the value of broad and inclusive definitions of health that facilitate action to improve population health status, reduce/eliminate inequities, prevent injury, illness, disease, and premature death, and promote individual and community health.

A) People

1. **Current number of members:** 72 people on the mailing list.
2. **Thought leaders of your subgroup:**
3. **Member 'phenotypes' and approximate numbers:** Core O'Brien staff, new faculty or trainees looking to get involved in public health research, AHS program staff and management from public health portfolios, UCalgary faculty
4. **How new members find your subgroup:** When they sign up for O'Brien membership O'Brien Communications team forwards the name of people interested to us and we add them to our mailing list.
5. **Gaps in membership that subgroup wants to fill:** None at this time, it is a diverse group.

B) Activities

6. **Events/activities of your subgroup:**
 - a. Previous: We have two to three meetings per calendar year and we send out regular updates to our mailing list.
 - b. Planned: We are planning two events for 2019. One will focus on disseminating the results of two CIHR Ppioid Knowledge Synthesis grants and the other will be driven by group members – topic TBD based on O'Brien leadership priorities.
7. **Method and frequency of subgroup:** We send out updates of interest to members as they arise via the email list and as requested by members and OIPH staff. We began the mailing list in January 2018 and sent 28 messages to members over the year, including meeting notices and minutes.
8. **Academic outputs and societal impacts leveraged by subgroup:** None concrete at this time that could be attributed to PHP, but our members are productive in their areas of work and research. We did formalize a new terms of reference document last year which was helpful.

C) Operations

9. **Administrative human resources for your subgroup:** None formally assigned.
10. **O'Brien human resources upon which your subgroup relies:** None at this time.
11. **Entities other than O'Brien Institute supporting subgroup, and type of support:** None.
12. **Approximate yearly expenditures of subgroup:** None at this time. Our budget is 3K per year.

D) Other feedback (strategic questions, advice)

PHP's strength and challenge is breadth of mandate and diversity of membership. The group reports value in activities to date, but we are continuing to look for ways to add more value and would welcome input from leadership.

Members of Mailing List

Aleem Bharwani	Dianne Tapp	Katrina Milaney	Rebecca Saah
Ann Toohey	Emma Buzath	Laura McDougall	Reed Beall
Alan Smart	Rowan El-Bialy	Laura Rivera	Richard Musto
Herman Barkema	Emma Billington	Lynn McIntyre	Susan Cork
Brent E. Hagel	Frank P. MacMaster	Lindsay McLaren	Sheila McDonald
Bonnie M. Lashewicz	Gavin McCormack	Lorian Hardcastle	Jackie Sieppert
Bonnie Larson	Juliet R. Guichon	Marit Rosol	Susan Kutz
Carolyn Emery	Harneet Chahal	Marie-Claude Proulx	Sylvia Checkley
Cheryl Peters	Huiming Yang	Meghan McDonough	Suzanne C. Tough
Christine Friedenreich	Ilyan Ferrer	Shelly Russell-Mayhew	Wilfreda Thurston
Cyne Johnston	Jennifer Hewson	Margaret L. Russell	Stephanie VandenBerg
Dana Olstad	Judit Smits	Melanie Rock	Vineet Saini
Jamie Day	Jason Cabaj	Natalie Yanchar	William Ghali
Debbie Mcneil	JianLi Wang	Nicholas Etches	Sam Saleh
Deinera Exner	Joon Lee	Noel Keough	Zahinoor Ismae
David Glenn Strong	John Gilleard	Pablo Fernandez	
Daniel Lai	Kerry Alison McBrien	Paul Arnold	

Recent Meetings

- January 31, 2017
- October 4, 2017
- February 22, 2018 (Email list launch and e-update)
- June 18, 2018
- November 22, 2018

Population Health and Prevention Research Interest Group
O'Brien Institute for Public Health, University of Calgary
Terms of Reference

Introduction

The O'Brien Institute for Public Health (OIPH) has a vision of Better Health and Health Care, supported by three research themes: Improved Population Health, Enhanced Health Systems Performance, and Innovative Tools and Methods for Public Health.

The purpose of the Population Health and Prevention (PH&P) Research Interest Group is to advance the Institute's Improved Population Health research theme and contribute toward achieving the portion of the OIPH vision pertaining to 'Better Health'.

Because the membership represent diverse perspectives, traditions, and domains of research and practice, PH&P recognizes the value of broad and inclusive definitions health^{1,2} that facilitate action to improve population health status, reduce/eliminate inequities, prevent injury, illness, disease, and premature death, and promote individual and community health.

PH&P recognizes that improving the health of populations requires:

- Action on the broad determinants of health, with an emphasis on upstream interventions addressing root causes
- Acknowledgement that health inequities are major challenge to be addressed
- Activities across the health continuum, from primordial to tertiary prevention
- Action across the lifespan, incorporating a lifecourse perspective
- Collaborative approaches using multiple strategies, including both agentic (which focus on individual capacities and responsibilities) and structural (which focus on context) interventions
- Multiple types of evidence to inform health decision-making

Mission

To provide synergy in research and knowledge support activities among OIPH and external stakeholders/partners whose work focuses on improving population health and preventing health inequities.

Goals

1. Promote research, learning, and knowledge translation activities in population health, prevention, and public health practice
2. Serve as a venue for information sharing and coordination of OIPH action on population health issues
3. Contribute to public and policy advocacy efforts on the social determinants of health and health inequities

Strategies

- Collaborate on research/planning grants
- Engage in advocacy activities (e.g. position papers, op-eds, coalition membership)
- Facilitate student training opportunities
- Plan networking events/symposiums/forums
- Provide/inform OIPH voice in outreach, media, fund development activities

¹ <http://www.who.int/about/mission/en/>

² <http://www.who.int/healthpromotion/conferences/previous/ottawa/en/>

- Organize CHS/OIPH Friday seminars
- Support OIPH decision making/action related to population health issues
- Share information and coordinate activities with internal and external partners:
 - AHS PPIH SCN (Population, Public and Indigenous Health)
 - APHA
 - Brenda Strafford Centre on Aging
 - CHS PPH (Population and Public Health) teaching specialization
 - GRIP (Group for Research with Indigenous Peoples)
 - makeCalgary
 - OIPH Health Policy Centre (in development)
 - Others relevant groups as identified by our members

Membership

General membership: Any interested OIPH member whose work relates to the PH&P mission

Student membership: PH&P welcomes students and medical residents as affiliate members.

Meetings

Meetings of the general PH&P membership will be held 3-4 times per year

Decision making

Decisions will be made by consensus. When consensus is not possible, a majority vote will be taken with PH&P chair serving as a tie-breaking vote when necessary.

Quorum

Quorum will consist of those in attendance.

Approved by PHP co-chairs and PHP membership on June 13, 2016.